

# You can be Filled with the Holy Spirit!

## About this lesson:

The Bible says: "Be filled with the Spirit!" (Eph 5:18). This means that every follower of Jesus needs the Holy Spirit. When you receive the Holy Spirit you receive God's power and your life will change!

Today's subjects are:

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- Why you need the Holy Spirit.
- How to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

## Do as follows:

- ✓ Find the Scripture verses in your Bible and mark them.
- ✓ Study! The more you study, the more you will understand.  
God bless you!



## 1 Who is the Holy Spirit?

Praise God! Now you are saved! You have received Jesus Christ by faith. This is the most important decision you will ever make. (If you wonder if you have been saved, review lesson No. 2.)

When you received Jesus, something immediately happened to you, even if you didn't feel anything. It takes a lifetime to discover all that is yours in Christ. Today you will enter into the marvellous world of the Holy Spirit; this is possible because you have received Jesus Christ and made him Lord of your life.



Who is the Holy Spirit? (continued)

The Holy Spirit is God – and he works in you!

2 Cor 3:16-18  
Matt 28:19

The Holy Spirit is God, and he plays a vital role in your life. In the first three lessons, you learn about the whole Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. But living with God is much more than simply knowing about him. The Holy Spirit will help you to experience God and to stay close to him. He is already doing wonderful things in you; he has led you to Jesus, and without him you could never have confessed Jesus as Lord. Following Jesus is not a series of intellectual decisions, but a spiritual lifestyle!

The Old Testament promises us the Holy Spirit



- Creation:** Gen 1:2
- Joseph:** Gen 41:38
- The 70 elders:** Num 11:25
- Gideon:** Judges 6:34
- King David:** 1 Sam 16:13
- Elijah:** 2 Kings 2:15,16
- Prophets prophesy:** Isa 44:3, Ezek 36:26,27, Zech 4:6
- Growing anticipation:** Mark 1:7,8

Gen 1:2  
Num 11:25  
Ezek 2:2  
Joel 2:28,29  
Ezek 36:26,27

Let's start from the beginning! The Holy Spirit was there right at Creation. He is always present when God works mighty wonders. He was at work in the leaders of Israel and in the prophets. But for hundreds of years, prophets spoke about something even better. **They prophesied that the Holy Spirit would come upon all people**, men and women, even boys and girls. And God's Spirit would come and change our hearts and fill us with himself, and with love, faith and power. Wow! These were God's promises to us. And he fulfilled them through Jesus!

Luke 1:35  
Luke 4:1  
Acts 10:38  
1 John 4:17  
John 14:12

Jesus himself was filled with the Holy Spirit

The Bible clearly says that Jesus himself was not just born of the Spirit, but also filled and anointed with the Holy Spirit (which means that the Spirit filled him and worked through him). And he was led by the Spirit, just as you and I can be!

We can never be what Jesus is because he is God. But he asks his followers to be like him. He even promised that we would do the same things he did – and even greater miracles. How? Through the Holy Spirit! This lesson will teach you how this happens.

Jesus and the Spirit		
JESUS BORN	• <b>Conceived by the Spirit</b>	Luke 1:35
	• <b>Born of Mary</b>	Luke 2:7
MINISTRY IN THE SPIRIT	• <b>Jesus grew in wisdom and stature for about 30 years</b>	
	• <b>Jesus baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit</b>	Luke 3:21, 22, 4:1
	• <b>Ministry (three years) in the power of the Spirit</b>	Acts 10:38
JESUS GIVES THE SPIRIT	• <b>Promise to send the Spirit to us</b>	John 16:7
	• <b>Jesus dies and is resurrected</b>	John 20-21
	• <b>Jesus gives the Spirit</b>	Acts 2

Jesus promised to give us the Holy Spirit

John 16:5-7  
John 17:26

Jesus said something remarkable to his disciples: "It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor (the Holy Spirit) will not come to you." Can you imagine anything better than being with Jesus in Israel all those years ago? Yet Jesus promised that through the Holy Spirit he will live **in us** all the time!

Luke 24:49  
John 14:16

During his very last days on earth, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit: "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." It is clear that the Holy Spirit was vital for all that Jesus wanted his followers to accomplish after he had gone. Earlier, he had told them: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about." He also said: "In a few days you will be **baptised with the Holy Spirit.**"

Acts 1:4, 5



## 2 Jesus baptises with the Holy Spirit

Jesus knew that without the Spirit working in his friends there would be none of God's power and God's kind of love. Without the Holy Spirit, God's plans for mankind would never be fulfilled. It is the same for you and me: we need the Holy Spirit to live the life God planned for us. Let's see what Jesus means by his promise to send the Spirit.

### 1. The Spirit will flow like rivers out of your inner man

Jesus always spoke boldly about the Holy Spirit, because he wanted people to know about him. When Jerusalem was full of people, he stood and cried in a loud voice about the Holy Spirit: "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, *rivers* of living water will flow from within him. By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive." "Whoever" means anyone. Anyone who believes will experience the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit. And you'll see the difference when he comes: powerful rivers of God's own life will flow out of you!

### 2. Jesus said: "You will be baptised with the Holy Spirit"

Much of the New Testament was written in the Greek language. "To baptise", in Greek, means to "immerse", "dip down", "plunge". It can even mean "drown". Jesus wants you to be totally immersed in the Holy Spirit, so he is inside, outside and all around you. When this happens, you'll see a tremendous difference in your life. Look at the amazing change the Holy Spirit brought to Jesus' friends when they were immersed in him:

- Peter, who was once a coward, became a fearless witness! You can become one too!
- All of them began to speak in other tongues! You can too!
- The first little group of believers became a fast-growing church; new people were won for Jesus every day. You can win others for Jesus too!
- The same healing power that Jesus had was now in all his followers! It can be in your life too!
- Most important of all, thousands of believers began to live in God's love. They shared everything with each other, and helped one another in practical ways. The Holy Spirit brings

this kind of love into your life too! He is the promised gift of the Father to everyone who believes in Jesus, and he makes all the difference in the world!

### 3. The era of the Holy Spirit begins

The day the Holy Spirit came was a turning-point in world history. What had been promised hundreds of years before was now a reality. A new era had begun – the age of the Holy Spirit. And we still live in this age today. "Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house.... *All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues* as the Spirit enabled them." The Holy Spirit changed their lives, and through them the whole of Jerusalem was changed too. The love and power of the Holy Spirit was unstoppable! These life-changing events continued to happen – even outside Jerusalem. Cornelius and his friends and relatives, too, were baptised in the Spirit. Jesus sent the Spirit to them, exactly as he had done to Peter and the others. And it continues to happen!

### 4. The Holy Spirit is available now

Ever since the day the Spirit came, he has been available to the thirsty, as Jesus promised.

If you are thirsty, you drink. If you are thirsty for God, ask him for his gift of the Holy Spirit. Receive the Holy Spirit just as you received Jesus. Ask him to come into your life. The Spirit will come just as Jesus came! God shows no partiality! He shocked Peter's fellow-preachers by giving the Holy Spirit to the least likely people, outcasts like Gentiles and Samaritans. The promise is for all, and includes you and me: "You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off." Listen: "If you, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, *how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*" Everyone who asks, receives! That includes you. What a wonderful promise from God the Father! Praise God for His incredible love to us!

Zech 4:6

John 16:7

John 7:37-39

Zech 14:8

Isa 12:3

Acts 1:5

Matt 26:69-75

Acts 2:14

Acts 2:2-4

Acts 2:40,41

Acts 2:47, 6:7

Acts 3:1-10

Rom 5:5

Acts 4:32-35

Acts 2:2-4

Acts 10:44-47

Acts 2:38,39

Luke 11:13

1 Cor 2:12

**Bible Quest**

**What is the Holy Spirit like?**

Jesus' last hours with the disciples were very special. During this time, he gave them his Will, and this has much to do with the Holy Spirit. His Will was not just for the first disciples, but also for you and me. Jesus tells us in John 14:15-16:16 what the Holy Spirit is like. Let's study this passage.



✓ First, read John 14:15-16:16 and underline the words "Spirit" and "Counsellor". "Counsellor" is another name for the Holy Spirit.

✓ Secondly, list the things Jesus tells you about the Holy Spirit.

- Describe the Holy Spirit and say who he is:



- Write down what Jesus says the Holy Spirit will do:



✓ Thirdly, read the following verses and write down what happened when the Holy Spirit came on the disciples:

Acts 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 2:17 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 5:32 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 7:55 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 8:15-17 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 8:29 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 9:31 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 10:44-46 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 11:28 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 13:52 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 19:6 \_\_\_\_\_



Eph 5:18-20

### 3 Why you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit

The Bible says: "Be filled with the Spirit." And the first believers were all filled! But why do we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Let's put some honest questions to ourselves.

- Do I love with perfect, unselfish love?

Yes  No

Love is the fruit of the Spirit. God's dream is that we all will be filled with his love. Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another." He will help you. He says that the Holy Spirit is the solution: "God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." Rivers of love will flow out of you! Paul describes this as the fruit of the Spirit.

John 13:34

Rom 5:5

Gal 5:16-26

- Do I witness boldly about Jesus?

Yes  No

If you answered "No", then this will change when you let the Holy Spirit empower your life.

The Holy Spirit will give you boldness to share about Jesus. Jesus said: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses." If you answered "Yes", the Holy Spirit will give you greater boldness and increasing joy and power to win people for Jesus.

Acts 1:8

- Do I fully understand the Bible and God's promises to me?

Yes  No

The Holy Spirit helps you understand the Bible and all God's promises: We have received "the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us." The Spirit of wisdom and revelation gives light to the eyes of your inner man. Without the Holy Spirit, you will never understand the plans and purposes of God.

1 Cor 2:12

Eph 1:17,18

1 Cor 12:7-11

- Do you have the spiritual gifts that Paul talks about? Do you heal others, have words of wisdom, or prophesy, or speak in tongues?

Yes  No

1 Cor 14:1

The Holy Spirit is the one who gives these gifts to believers who are hungry for them. The Bible says: "Eagerly desire spiritual gifts." They are for you!

### How did you score?

If your score was four "No"s, don't worry. There is a solution. God will turn your negative answers into positive ones! His solution is the Holy Spirit. Be baptised in the Holy Spirit and ask the Holy Spirit to fill you each day. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful friend. He is your Helper and Counsellor. He is the one who leads you into all truth. The Holy Spirit will revolutionise your life as you allow him to have his way each day. But first you must be baptised in the Spirit. How can this happen? Read on.



James 2:17

## Action Time

### Faith expresses itself in Action

If you only read, speak or think, and never act, your faith won't work! In this lesson, we ask you to receive what God promises you.

Acts 2:4

You will experience the same power that fell on the first people who were baptised in the Spirit: "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

### 1. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for "All"

It says "all" were filled with the Holy Spirit. There were 120 people, men and women from different situations in life. You don't need special qualifications to receive the Holy Spirit. All you need is to have confessed that Jesus Christ is Lord.

### 2. "All were filled..."

**Thank God now: "Father, I thank you that I am ready to receive the Holy Spirit because I believe in Jesus."**

Acts 19:6

When you ask, you will receive. You don't need to wait, because the Spirit is already given to you. Often in the Bible, a believer laid hands on the people who were hungry for the Holy Spirit. Immediately **they received and were instantly filled**. You received Jesus by taking a decision, not by feeling something. You said: "Jesus, I receive you as my Saviour." Do exactly the same with the Holy Spirit, and immediately you will be filled. Some people feel a powerful presence at once, others don't. But don't go by feelings. Trust God's promise. As soon as you ask the Father to give you the Holy Spirit, he will do it. You will begin to experience the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:13

**Ask the Father now: "Father, I ask you to fill me with the Holy Spirit. I receive him now. Amen."** Straight away begin to thank him.

### 3. "They began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them words to say"

Acts 19:6

1 Cor 14:1-5

Jesus had said that the believers would speak in new tongues, and that's exactly what happened. The Holy Spirit gave them a new language, which they had never spoken before. In the book of Acts, new believers received the Spirit and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. These gifts are for you, too!

#### ✓ The gift of tongues is supernatural

1 Cor 14:13-17

When you speak in tongues you are speaking with your spirit, by the Holy Spirit who is within you. You are no longer speaking in any language that you know. You do not speak with your mind, but with your spirit. Just stop speaking in your own language and begin praising God with your spirit. It is like listening to the radio: you must switch off program 1 to be able to hear program 2. So switch off your own language. Quit speaking with your mind, and begin speaking in the Spirit, in tongues!

#### ✓ You speak, not the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:4

When you begin speaking and thanking God, the Holy Spirit will supernaturally give new, wonderful words. Look again at the verse. It says: **THEY began to speak**. **YOU** must begin to speak. Unless you open your mouth and begin speaking, you can't speak any language, not even tongues! When you fill your lungs with air, and open your mouth to make sounds and begin to release your breath, the Spirit will give you the words. Release whatever words are easiest at first.

#### ✓ The Holy Spirit gives the words!

Matt 7:9-11

Don't be afraid to speak wrong words. If you ask, you will have the Holy Spirit, and nothing else. And you will speak new, heavenly words!

#### ✓ Start now!

Close your eyes, lift your hands, and begin praising God in new tongues. It will happen! Don't let the Devil steal this gift from you. The Devil is a liar. He may try to tell you: "You made it up yourself." But you know better: God is faithful to his promise! Speak in tongues every day, many times a day for the rest of your life. Some start with a river of words, others with a few simple syllables. That doesn't matter. The miracle has begun!

**Dear brother/sister in Jesus Christ,**

Praise God for the gift of his Holy Spirit! He will be your friend and counsellor. Rely on him at all times, in every situation. He will fill you with God's love and power, and guide you along the best path for your life. You have entered into a wonderful relationship with the Holy Spirit. Each day, ask the Father to fill you, and keep being filled with him (Eph 5:18-20). This is just the beginning, but what a wonderful beginning!

You may find it helpful to study this lesson again. What you receive today will change your life forever!

**Memo Time**

Write the Bible verses on a sheet of paper, and read them many times each day – on the bus, during a break, or together with the family at a mealtime.

**"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." Acts 2:4**

**"God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." Rom 5:5**

**BibleKeys Information**

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